

Cotherstone Parish Council – Action Log updated 3 July 2019

Parish Council meeting date	Issue	Detail	Latest action	Latest action date	Next action due	Next action by
September 2018	New noticeboard at east of village	Clerk to obtain prices/designs for recycled plastic noticeboard	<p>Cllr Quick prepared design and materials cost for softwood-framed 6x4s noticeboard for location in cemetery land</p> <p>11/6/19 Clerk seeks advice from Durham County Council on permission needed to install timber noticeboard near telephone box on verge near Fitzhugh Court</p> <p>26/6 Clerk chases Steven Bennett (DCC Clean & Green) re above.</p>			
November 2018	Tree inspections	Query raised over liability for tree safety and inspection regime	<p>Clerk contacted PC's insurer and received 6-page guidance note.</p> <p>2/1/19 Guidance note forwarded to all councillors.</p> <p>9/1/19 Clerk to obtain quotes from All About Trees for a) inspection of trees near Hagg House and b) for complete mapping and preparation of inspection schedule and delivery of said schedule.</p> <p>11/1/19 Clerk requested quotation. 14/1/19 Map requested by All About Trees.</p> <p>25/1/19 Map provided showing six pieces of Parish Council-owned land and requesting that a parish councillor accompany a site visit to assess or prepare the quotation.</p> <p>13/2/19 Quotation received from All About Trees and discussed at meeting.</p> <p>14/2/19 Dave Martin of Trees for Cotherstone has offered to survey and plot the trees on PC land, do a visual ground level description of said trees and list those trees which he considers need a more detailed examination.</p> <p>1/3/19 Report received from Dave Martin.</p> <p>13/3/19 Councillors discussed Dave Martin's report and decided to develop it, initially establishing which trees are PC responsibility and then preparing an action plan to deal with them.</p> <p>1/4/19 Letter sent to Hodgsons suggestion discussion with Cllr Hunter on trees 1 and 3 which overhang The Close allotments and were identified as needing work.</p> <p>w/c 15/4/19 Cllr Hunter meeting with Denise Hodgson 21/4/19 Peter Ditchburn advises: the juniper in the cemetery could have a phytophthera infection, although the problem could be caused by other agents. A test to confirm phytophthera would be expensive and not necessary as there are no other junipers in the vicinity that could become infected. Suggestion: Because the tree is not a danger to anyone we should leave it and I'll monitor it every spring and autumn (I have the original photographs as reference). If</p>			

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			<p>there is any change I will get back to you with a further recommendation. If you wish to remove it for aesthetic reasons it should be burned as close to the spot as practical as a precaution against possible infection spread.</p> <p>13/5 Cllr Hunter is pulling together a 'risk assessment' to support Dave Martin's report.</p>			
-	Teesdale Way footpath	Broken down 5-10yd length of fence exposing 60ft drop to river, opposite The Mill on FP76, close to the 'Tomb'	<p>5/2/19 Clerk reported online Ref. 34216779. Case marked as closed later the same day.</p> <p>8/2/19 Mike Murden (Rights of Way officer) emailed advising that he will inspect to assess the damage w/c 12/2.</p> <p>19/3 MM update – he has inspected Footpath 76 and 77 and couldn't find any damaged/missing railings anywhere near the position indicated. Confirmation of location is required if the problem is to be looked at again.</p> <p>10/4 Cllr Watson to provide photograph to help identify/locate damage</p> <p>30/4 Photos supplied by Cllr Sabey sent to MM for better identification of site</p> <p>21/5 MM replied that the photos helped; broken railing can be replaced, he'll take a look and decide about the other fencing.</p> <p>16/6 Clerk chased MM for update, and also reported tree trunk lodged against Tees bridge, and bellying wall to Teesdale Way</p>			
March 2019	Cemetery path	Condition of path – damage by tree roots and where old section meets new section	<p>Cllr Hunter to inspect and make recommendation to Council</p> <p>12/4/19 Clerk contacted Robert Gill and asked him to liaise with Cllr Hunter and provide quotation for a) yew tree root solution and b) fixing the path where the two sections of the cemetery join</p> <p>Clerk has contacted four companies, who either don't do such work, or sub-contract it to Gills, though one contractor is to submit a quotation.</p>			
March 2019	Cemetery	Anomalies between Exclusive Rights of Burial Grants and Cemetery Plan	Clerk to attempt to resolve			
May 2019	Street lighting	Number 17, between School and Red Lion is permanently on	<p>20/5 Clerk telephoned DCC (online system not showing street lights) to report. Ref. 119825467.</p> <p>23/5 Email received that matter has been resolved and case closed.</p>			

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May 2019	Grass cutting at The Hagg	J&JG Gill to be asked to cut The Hagg and to do so prior to the Fun Weekend if necessary	11/5 Julie Gill confirmed that cutting will be on the same rate as 2018, and will cut before Fun Weekend if it needs it.			
-	Briscoe Bridge	Inner leaf of bridge parapet is down	FS25955482 – case marked as escalated in February 2018. 10/6 Clerk spoke to DCC and found that case is marked with 'query over who will fund the work'. Jennifer Alderson, Customer Services Team Coach, or Highways Dept officer will investigate and contact me about how progress will be made. 26/6 Clerk chased. JA not available. Now escalated to Karen Jones. 27/6 Cllr Watson advises that work has been completed.			
-	Lifebelt at The Hagg	Lifebelt, casing and signage all in need of maintenance/replacement	10/6 Clerk left voice message for Barrie Alderson, the DCC officer with responsibility for this. 16/6 Clerk sent chasing email to Barrie Alderson. Reply received that responsibility transferred back to the landowner (on unitary authority introduction in 2009) – Mr Robertson of Hagg House. 26/6 Clerk wrote to Mr Robertson seeking clarity on his understanding and any intention to repair/maintaining the equipment. 30/6 Email from Mr Robertson stating that he was not aware of any transfer of ownership or responsibility, but will work with the PC on options if this is definitely the case.			
June 2019	Flower bed at Cotherstone entrance sign	Reinstatement of flower bed (councillors will strim grass)	16/6 Clerk wrote to Roy Siswick asking if he'd be willing and able to plant up flower bed 18/6 Confirmation received that Mr Siswick will be happy to do this – but watering must be considered too.			
June 2019	Danger outside Cotherstone School	Congestion/parking/risk, particularly caused by traffic approaching from Lartington direction	16/6 Clerk emailed Lee Mowbray requesting that yellow zig-zag lines be refreshed and extended slight towards the Moor Road			

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June 2019	Dog waste bins	New dog bin requests	<p>16/6 Clerk submitted request for bins at three points where Tees Railway Walk crosses roads – B6277 near Birkett Close, the Moor Road and Briscoe Lane. Case 124972791.</p> <p>16/6 Clerk emailed resident advising of above action and drawing attention to the PC's efforts with 'pick up your dog's poo' posters</p>			
June 2019	B6277 Road surface	Condition is very poor and deteriorating	<p>16/6 Clerk submitted resurfacing request Case 124974482.</p> <p>17/6 Clerk received call from Charlotte Wilkinson, DCC Highways – resurfacing right through the village has been identified as needed and designers are working on the scheme now. Hopefully will be carried out within this financial year.</p>			
June 2019	Wheelie bins	Wheelie bins left at Mill lane end	<p>16/6 Clerk wrote to occupiers of The Mill and Mill Hill Farm requesting that bins are not left at lane end other than for emptying and the number of bins reduced.</p> <p>18/6 Clerk received phone call from Mill Hill Farm owner saying that she will try to reduce number of bins from 3 to 2 but sees little else practical she can do about the issue.</p>			